

Foreman's Report July 7 thru August 10, 2012

The patch paving finally was done, being just ahead of the chip sealing project, which I think went fairly well considering it occurred in about the busiest week of summer. I am very pleased with the job and the job will prolong the life of those roads. The line painting is going to hopefully occur next week to wrap up the job. The crack sealers will not be showing up until September. The County is currently doing the repair work at the intersection Herring Street and Big Bay Road and on Big Bay Road across from Norvado's building, will hopefully have it patched back up by the end of next week.

I am still tentatively planning the big ravine project for the last week in August, but still need to get one ROW easement signed, and with the delay of the park project may just set this project back a week or two.

As most of you know Merrill has been unable to work for the past three weeks or so due to a car accident, but has a doctor's note allowing him to come back for light duty, and he will be starting this weekend to assist Dick with Star Bars. I can't say enough about how Dick has stepped up to the plate to compensate for the temporary loss of Merrill, at the same time as the mayhem associated with the peak tourist season came into play along with the total confusion brought about with the reservation system, he has kept up with all of this along with dealing with mowing, garbage and dirty bathrooms.

C&W Construction has had their screening plant here since Tuesday, with their operator, using a loader from Nelson Construction. Hopefully we have screened enough black dirt for the big ravine and park landscaping jobs and a little for all the odds and ends jobs that come along for a few years. We also have a considerable pile of rocks that will be picked through for the masonry in the park buildings and rip rap for the park and big ravine.

We have received the culvert supply ordered through the County for the big ravine and park projects.

After failing three tests, the water at the rec center has finally come back safe, and is satisfactory for drinking purposes once again. The general consensus is that the well is just too shallow at 34 feet, and the Town may have to drill a new one at some point.

Big Bay Town Park

People that have thought they had our park all figured out for years have been showing up in the middle of the week expecting to find the cream of the crop campsites, only to find everything is full after paying for their ferry rides. Dick, Evan and the Lambus's have been most sympathetic with these folks and have stuck them anywhere a few spare feet of space could be found to pitch a tent, as well as taking up even more of our precious parking area. This has of course contributed to even more parking out on the County road during the day.

I also have to extend strong word of thanks to Robert and Elizabeth Lambus, who have not only played the role of Campground Host, but have basically been Park Assistants over 20 hours/week. I intend to submit a small voucher to cover some of their expenses for all the time they have put in, as we would have been really lost without them.

I feel I need to bring to bear the issue of household trash at the park, and in general in all the Town trash cans. The amount of trash hauled and processed by the Town is significant, costing all taxpayers more than we already pay in. Maybe we need to place a surveillance camera on the new picnic shelter? Sad. We need to get better containers and lids, as to not allow bags being tossed in the cans.

We are still awaiting the grant awards from the DNR, but they should be here in time for the second bid opening and contract awarding.

Respectfully Submitted

Keith Sowl
Town Foreman
Town of La Pointe

